1: Hocart Y-5 (ca. 1920) 1929 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Lakemba

Naturally, all the villages are now on the coast, and a road made by the Tongans, following the shore, serves them all. Each village has its passage through the reef, some fit for large cutters, some only for canoes at high tide. The passage most in use, though narrow and difficult, is Nandawa, opposite Tumbou.

The whole population in Lakemba (about one thousand) resides in compact villages. Tumbou, the chief village, where reside the chief and his family, lies on the west bank of the Nakula stream and has a population of about 180. On the other bank is the small village of Levuka. Between Levuka and Wathiwathi, among the rocks of the southern promontory, is the site of an extinct village, Tarukua, the survivors of which are in Wathiwathi. Beyond Wathiwathi, begin the mangrove swamps and between them and the irrigated lands is Waitambu. A long gap stretches between this village and the site of Narothake, a former village, the inhabitants of which are in Nukunuku. At Nukunuku, the shore shelves very gradually to the reef, which here lies farthest removed from the island—a distance of ten miles. The distant anchorage is known as Tawaveiwekani (No-relation) because the way is so long that strangers staying in the village neglect to send a share of the feast to those of their party who are looking after their canoes.

The village of Yandrana ranks next Tumbou in size. Nasangalau is third largest, but the second in rank. Near it rises Vangandra, a precipitous rock, jutting out from the hills, on the top of which is the site of the oldest settlement recorded in Lakemban history. The anchorage of Wangatalata (Wanggatalatha), about two miles from Tumbou, was important in the olden days.

The villages other than Tumbou and Levuka form what is known as the "Country," Lauandoko, as opposed to the "Town." If the term Lauandoko is not a corruption, it means "the digging pole strikes," and probably expresses the fact that the Country plants for the nobles in the Town. I have also once heard these villages described as the "Back of Lakemba," but one informant limits this term to the villages on the north coast from Nasangalau to Nukunuku.

Tumbou is the center of culture, manners, and politics. (See Pl. II, *D*.) Villagers coming to Tumbou feel ill at ease, for though no longer compelled to go about Tumbou with folded arms, they are expected to be humble and are conspicuous by their lack of assurance.

Differences in type and character exist between the villages. (See Pl. I.) "Villages differ in the men," says a native, Tui Wathiwathi, "it may have something to do with the soil; some places have soil productive of strong men (*nggele tamata kaukaua*). Doubtless it is the will of God."

I: Hocart Y-5 (ca. 1920) 1929 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Lakemba

352 285 mat. These mats and the bark cloth are stored in bales on the beams wrapped in old, coarse matting.

352 513 In some *longgi*, the couch on which the head of the household sleeps is simply a pile of mats; in others it is a long, broad stage spread with mats. The other members of the household sleep about the floor with their feet to the wall. In the old days, beds were piled up with grass and coconut leaves, five or six feet high all round the house, each wife having her bed.

352 353 Near the couches members of the household place their European wooden boxes in which they keep their clothing, scented oil, comb, mirror, and other odds and ends. At the lower end and at the sides of the house, hanging from the beams, resting on a beam, or placed against the wall, are kava bowls, kava cups, enamel cups, hurricane lanterns, and baskets.

342 Dwelling houses of married folks are called *vale soso*. The sleeping quarters of the young men are small ordinary houses called *mbure*.

Tumbou

361 The present site of Tumbou was first occupied by the Tongans. The people of this village moved down to the shore in 1868 or 1869 under the reign of Taliai Tupou. The remains of the old village Nakorovusa lies about half a mile higher up the Nakula stream. Only the moat and a few mounds on which the houses stood are left, all covered with a thick jungle.

552 As shown in the plan of Tumbou, given in figure 3, each house has a name, and it is customary to say, not "I am going to Isoa's," but "I am going to Vunisavisavi"; not "Saleti and his people," but "they of Matanalailai."

Some of these names are old, some are recent. Thus Wangganui was so called because the high chief's sister's son had been to school in Wanggaanui, New Zealand. The name Niu Kini was suggested by the fact that a teacher was in New Guinea. Manono is an old name; it refers to an island in Samoa, the place of origin of the Lemaki family. Tui Mereke's house is called Loa, after a village in Oneata; his mother was a lady of Oneata. Many house names are derived from Vanua Levu, more particularly Thakaundrove as Thakaundroveiwai, Mbenau, Seanggangga.

621 614 Formerly a ditch or stream divided the village of Tumbou into halves or sides (*tambana*); Tumbou to the east, and Tai, the other bank, to the west. The village is also divided into clans known as *matanggali* (*mata*, face, eye, also group; *nggali*, subject to, or connected).

614 The subdivisions of a clan are called *mbati ni lovo* (sides or edges of the oven). "Sides of the oven," says my informant Meli, "refer to feasts; each edge has its own oven. But when the food is ready, the whole is put

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I: Hocart Y-5 (ca. 1920) 1929 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Lakemba

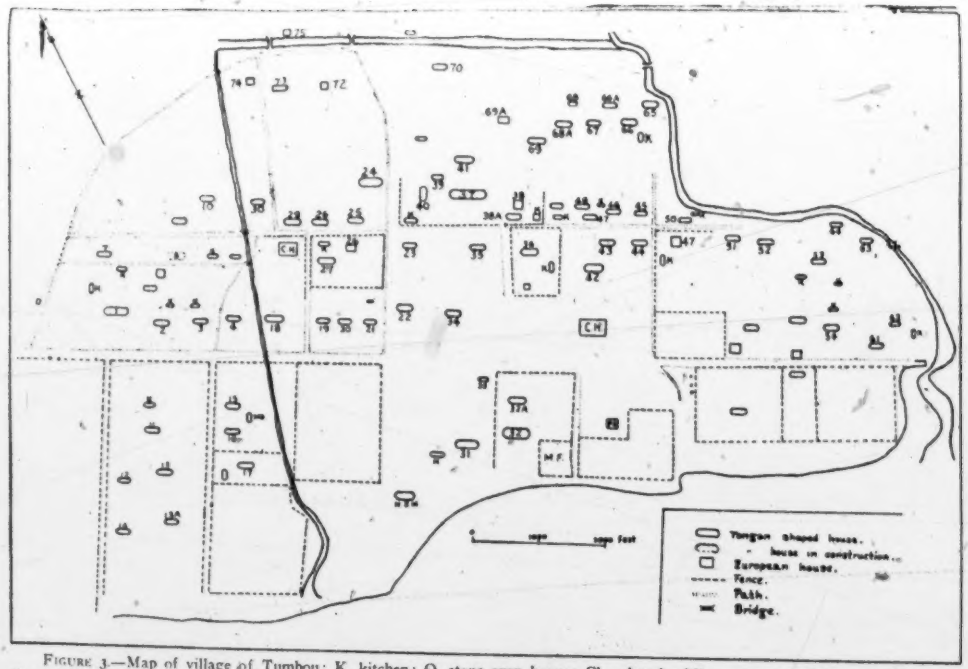

FIGURE 3.—Map of village of Tumbou: K, kitchen; O, stone oven house; Ch., church; Mb., young men's house (*mbure*); M. F., unknown; N. S. M., native magistrate; N. M. P., native medical practitioner; P. O., provincial office. The names of the houses are: 1, Thakaundroveiwai; 2, Mbenau; 3, Nggararaninggio; 4, Koronivia; 5, unknown; 6, Seangangga; 7, Nakoromaluia; 8, unknown; 9, Nggakilanggi; 10, unknown; 11, unknown; 12, Welangi; 13, Mbouono; 14, Motulala; 15, Manono; 16, Undukathu; 17, Samoa; 18, Vanua Masi; 19, Naveruarua; 20, Thithia; 21, Taira; 22, Seangangga; 23, Lakembanawa; 24, Vunisavisavi; 25, Tuvukei; 26, Naitasiri; 27, Natambusoro; 28, Nakuki; 29, Matanivolau; 30, Tuvatuvarua; 31, Matailakemba; 32, Kaukilangi; 33, unknown; 34, Matai Naiau; 35, Muailangi; 36, Matanalailai; 37, Vatuwangga; 38, Wangganui; 38A, Sekoula; 39, Vunilangakali; 40, Vunimanggo; 41, Yangasa; 42, Niu Kini; 43, Mbateteva; 44, Ndranivono; 45, unknown; 46, Muanakauli; 47, Veiravui; 48, Muairewa; 49, Verata; 50, unknown; 51, Mbiaungunu; 52, Solomone; 53, Mathuata; 54, Nukuselala; 55, Nathurumothe; 56, Wainingasau; 57, Sawakasa; 58, Naveretambu; 59, Newai; 60, Tiaina; 61, Naisongotheva; 62, Vunimakosoi; 63, Nggalimosi; 64, Mbateteva; 65, Nggaranithava; 66, Loa; 67, unknown; 68, unknown; 69, Mbatiniwai; 70, Taiti; 71, Ndenivonu; 72, Niu Silandi; 73, Naingginggi; 74, Tukituki.

2: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934)1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

133 262 have calm, shallow lagoons, abounding in fish and shellfish which are an important part of the diet. Most of these islands are deficient in food but rich in timber and jungle produce which provide the raw materials for their industries.

132 Lau has a tropical climate. During the dry season, which lasts from April to October, the cooling southeast trades blow regularly and the seas are calm. An extensive interisland canoe traffic is carried on during these months. The remainder of the year is rainy and warm with irregular winds, especially during the "hurricane" months of January, February, and March. Fortunately hurricanes are infrequent. Drought is a constant menace on the limestone islands, for rain is quickly absorbed by the sharp, porous limestone. There are no streams and practically all the fresh water used by the natives must be collected in tanks and utensils. On each island there are a few water holes which are usually brackish, but the native technique of living requires little fresh water.

361 The population of the islands is concentrated in coast villages. Each village is located on a sandy flat along the beach and is usually surrounded by a coconut grove. Frequently the site is planted with breadfruit trees. Usually the village land is divided into strips, which run from the beach to the cliffs; and each strip is owned and occupied by a clan (*matanggali*, formerly a hamlet in garden land or bush clearing, see p. 35). The clans of highest rank occupy the center of the village. Their houses dominate the ceremonial ground (*rara*), where village feasts are distributed and ceremonies, dances, and games are held.

A description of the islands and villages which were studied follows.

Kambara

621 133 Kambara is a basin-shaped mass of limestone, about 4.5 miles long and 3 miles wide. The rim of the basin is an irregular ridge about 60 meters high. Here and there the precipitous, seaward cliff falls away, giving space to a sand flat grown with coconut palms. On such flats are situated the four villages of the island: Tokalau, Lomatchi, Nggalinggali, and Undu. Kambara is nearly surrounded by a coral reef which breaks on the northwest coast, providing the only anchorage. The village of Tokalau is located opposite the anchorage.

Kambara combines the natural resources of both volcanic and limestone islands. The heavily forested interior of the island is honeycombed with pits and caverns. Pockets of red, residual soil of an acre or so are cultivated on the eastern edge of the basin and in the center where the elevation is only about 24.4 meters. A volcanic outcrop, Ndelaioloi, rising in the northwest part of the island to a height of 143.3 meters, provides the island's best soil, and here most of the gardens are located. The main garden products are manioc and sweet potato. A coarse quality of pandanus grows on Kambara. The principal

2: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934)1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

the cliff above the village. Nggalinggali is situated toward the north end of Kambara within easy sailing distance of the valuable, uninhabited island of Wangava. With 154 inhabitants, it is the largest village on Kambara. Its 32 sleeping houses are near the beach in two rows, one on each side of the road, which runs parallel to the shore. Most of Nggalinggali's garden lands are on Wangava, but some are found on the slopes of Ndelaioloi, in the interior Kambara basin, and on the ridge above the village. A path leads from the northwest corner of the village, up the steep cliff into the interior basin, and across the island. It connects Nggalinggali with Ndelaioloi, and the villages of Tokalau and Lomatchi. These villages, as well as Undu, may also be reached by skirting the island in a canoe or on foot at low tide.

The reservoir is out of repair, but brackish water is obtained from two water holes, one at the north end and one at the south end of the village.

On the sandy flat north of the village, are house sites of the old village of Tanggu, occupied immediately before the present site. On the limestone cliffs above Nggalinggali are the ruins of Nakoro (p. 218), a walled fortress which was used by the Nggalinggali group. Adjoining Nakoro on the southwest is Matanaiundu, a small fort which supplemented Nakoro.

At Naimarai near Naikeleangga on the north point of the island is a cemetery and village site, which, according to the natives, was formerly occupied by Tongan canoe builders. The ditch across which the hull of a double canoe was laid while under construction may still be seen. The natives say that near this spot was situated an assembly house (*vale ni mbose*), used as a meeting place for representatives from the two hostile sides of the island.

UNDU

Undu is the most isolated village on Kambara. Located on the east shore about two miles south of Nggalinggali, it is farthest from the island's anchorage at Tokalau and least touched by western influence. In Undu are concentrated the descendants of the land people (*kai vanua*) of Kambara, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island. The village has 120 inhabitants occupying 24 sleeping houses. Its title is Raviravimbalavu.

Undu is connected with Ndelaioloi, Tokalau, and Lomatchi by a rough, narrow path, which ascends the steep precipice above the village and leads through the bush across the island. The village garden lands are located on Ndelaioloi and on Marambo, a small uninhabited limestone island about seven miles east of the village.

The reservoir is in repair. On the northern outskirts of the village, fresh water drips from the cliff and is caught in wooden bowls. There is also a fresh water hole about 250 meters south of the village in the cliff. On the beach a mile south of Undu lies a salt water hole about 12 meters deep and 2 meters in diameter, used for fermenting food.

2: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934)1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

down by means of wall plates. The rounded ends, which are added to the main framework, involve much labor; but they are considered more pleasing than the straight ends of the rectangular house on Viti Levu.

Today a level, open place with a fresh sea breeze is sought for a house site, whereas formerly a man wanted to be near his neighbors. If possible a site is chosen in the hamlet of the man's own clan. If there are no suitable sites in his own clan-hamlet a man asks for a site in the hamlet of his mother (p. 122).

If the owner (*taukei*) is a carpenter (*matai*) he usually does the carpenter's work himself, otherwise he chooses a carpenter from his own village. He makes his request at the carpenter's house without the ceremonial presentation of property. The carpenter is in charge of the house building. Before building starts he consults the owner about every part of the house. The carpenter does the work requiring skill and experience, such as the ornamental lashings, and directs the building operations. The owner supervises the whole process. The natives say they can recognize the style of each carpenter by the proportions and curve of the roof, although carpenters have no specific trade marks. Each carpenter knows a few simple lashing designs. For especially fine lashing a specialist from another village is occasionally employed. A specialist in lashing knows a large number of designs.

Dwelling houses in Tokalau range from small houses like Mburotu (fig. 3, 3) measuring 7 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 5 meters high and built directly on the ground, to large houses like Vale Levu, the house of the chief of Kambara (fig. 3, 1) measuring 12 meters long, 6 meters wide, and 10 meters high, excluding the 1 meter high foundation mound. The largest house in the village besides the mission church is Koro Vou (fig. 3, 26), built as a guest house for visiting chiefs and officials. It is 16 meters long, 7.5 meters wide, and 6.5 meters high, excluding the 60 cm. high foundation mound. The houses in large villages like Nggalinggali on Kambara, Nawatchia on Namuka, Nasau on Mothe, Muanaithake on Fulanga, and Naithulaianga on Ongea average about the same size as the houses in Tokalau. The highest mounds are found in Nasau. In small villages of low rank, like Lomatchi on Kambara, Korotolu on Mothe, and Naivindamu on Fulanga, the houses are smaller.

Before the timber is felled, the owner determines the size of the house by deciding on the dimensions of the rectangular ground plan between the main supporting posts (*nduru*). Although the ground plan of the finished house is oval, the size of the house is measured by the length and width of this inner rectangular ground plan exclusive of the rounded ends and the space between the main supporting posts and the walls. The units of measurement are the fathom and the span. Measuring is done with sennit or vines and marked off with a knife, charcoal, or an imported lead pencil.

3: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934) 1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

CHAPTER I

A HAZARDOUS WORLD

KAMBARA, A FAMINE ISLE

A mate na rawarawa 539
Me mbula—na ka ni thava?
A mate na thenggu.

Death is easy.
Of what use is life?
To die is rest.

Fijian proverb.

SILHOUETTED against the sky, Kambara presents the 133
long, low outline of a basin-shaped limestone island, about 4½ miles long by 3½ miles wide. It is broken at the north-west by a volcanic hill. From the summit of this hill, one sees a world of sky, sea and forest. Below lies the dark green ghoulish jungle, stretching to the edge of the island. It is encircled by a turquoise lagoon, which is framed with a pink and purple coral reef fringed by dazzling white surf. Beyond lies the deep blue sea.

Here and there along the shore are sandy flats covered with 133
coconut groves and brush, and on these flats are situated four 361
villages: Tokalau, Lomatchi, Undu and Tanggu (officially [311]
designated Nggalinggali). Tokalau and Lomatchi, half-a-mile apart on the west side of the island, communicate easily along the beach on foot, as do Tanggu and Undu, a mile apart on the east side. Contact is more difficult between the two sides of the island, separated by the rough and thickly forested limestone basin. It can be effected through the bush on two [487]
rough narrow trails, or around the island by canoe, and also at low tide on foot. The two sides of the island are separated not only by physical barriers but also by invisible ones, for [776]
the jungle and lagoon are peopled with spirits, frequently hostile and malicious.

3: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934) 1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

133 the jungle and lagoon are peopled with spirits, frequently
361 hostile and malicious. Hence the two pairs of villages are isolated from each other. In the past they were frequently at war. Tokalau has long been the ranking village on the
621 west side and Tanggu ranking on the east. Today their
178 antagonism is expressed in frequent quarrels and rivalry for
578 wealth and social prestige. These villages are not old. They are composed of aggregations of hamlets formerly located
[112] inland and protected by hill fortresses. In the middle of the nineteenth century, when the elimination of warfare due to the introduction of Christianity made protection unnecessary, several adjacent hamlets formed a village which retained the traditional jealousies and feuds of its constituents.

131 On a clear day seventeen islands are visible from the highest
133 point on Kambara, 470 feet above the sea. One can even
823 discern the reef of uninhabited Wangava, home of the spirits
776 of illness, about three miles to the northeast. Wangava is a limestone island, rich in timber, turtles, shellfish, and garden land. It belongs to the village of Tanggu on Kambara. To the southeast, about seven miles away, is the little uninhabited island of Marambo, home of the "windwomen", twin spirits who assume the form of beautiful maidens to disturb men in their sleep. Marambo was formed when the devil dropped the hearth stone from his canoe through the opening for the steering paddle. Here the men of Undu plant gardens and fish for lobster. And away to the northwest, a speck on the
131 horizon, is another Kambaran possession—the tiny uninhabited
133 island of Tavunasithi, owned by Tokalau. The nearest inhabited islands are Kambara's fertile colonies to the northwest,[1] Namuka of limestone and Komo of volcanic formation. The
[648] people of Kambara apparently acquired these islands by destroying the early inhabitants in warfare. According to the
[173] genealogies, Namuka was settled by colonists from the east side of Kambara, and Komo by colonists from the west side. Komo lies on the canoe route from Kambara to the large

[1] [Northeast according to map on page xxvi, category 116.—Analyst]

ONGEA, ISLANDS

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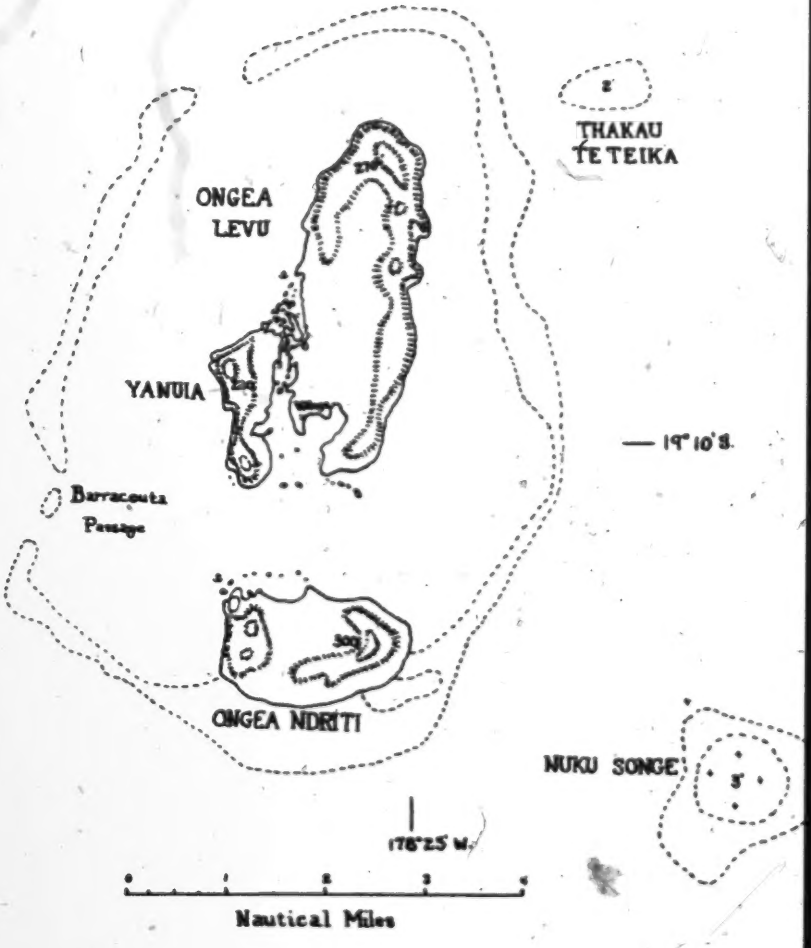

[p. 10]

9: Bryan N-5 (1924) 1924 OQ6 Lau OQ6

[ONGEA ISLANDS]

Unmapped Channel Between
Ongea Levu & Yanuia.

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[P. 11]

13 1. ONGEA Islands consist of three limestone islands situated at the south-east end of the group; (S.19° 10', 178° 25' W.). They are encircled by a barrier reef 5 1/2 by 8 miles, thru which there is one good (Barracouta) passage on the west side.

Ongea Levu, the largest of the three, is elongate eliptical in outline, 3 1/2 by 1 1/4 miles, with a deep sandy bay on the south, [361] at the head of which is located the village. The central portion is a flat, rising to a height of 270 feet on the east in a nearly continuous line of hills facing the sea, and sloping up slightly to the west and north.

The south-west portion of this main mass is a separate island, called Yamuia, which is separated from Ongea Levu by a narrow, winding passage, nearly dry at low tide. It is hilly and rough, with an elevation at the north-west of 220 feet, rising sharply from the sea. The south-eastern portion is much indented and filled with mangrove swamps. Both ends of the passage are filled with small rocky islets, a line of which also fringe the south coast of Ongea Levu and the shore line of Ongea Ndriti.

Ongea Ndriti, which lies about a mile to the south of Levu, is ovate in shape, 1 3/4 by 1 1/4 miles. The eastern and western ends are rough and hilly, rising to an elevation of 300 feet. The north center is a partly cultivated flat, and there is a broad sand beach on the south.

All three of the islands are of typical upraised coral limestone formation, and are covered with a dense growth of lowland forest. Most of the sea face is steep undercut cliff, but there are several small sand beaches.

The best anchorages for vessels of moderate size are off the north-west end of Ongea Ndriti, and off the north end of the deep bay on the west side of Ongea Levu. At both of these landing is good.

[p.12]

[ONGEA ISLANDS]

13 From the latter[1] a good trail leads across the central flat to the [487] village. The bay on the south side of Ongea Levu is too shallow for vessels larger than small cutters to enter.

317 There is no fresh water other than rainwater which is caught and stored in a cement cistern at the village.

136 No wild animals other than rats, lizards and snakes occur on these islands. There is a large green lizard called "vokai" by the natives, and one (perhaps two) species of gray-brown snakes. The natives report wild goats, but neither they nor their tracks were seen..

361 All the inhabitants, about 100 in number, live in the village [161] on Ongea Levu, but they cultivate considerable areas on both Levu 241 and Ndriti. The principal products raised are manioc, sweet potato, 245 yams, taro and bananas. The cocomut groves are not so extensive as the area of the islands would permit, but they apparently produce sufficient copra to supply the humble wants of the natives. 181 The people are industrious and fairly intelligent despite their 144 isolation. There is a more or less distinct Tongan cast. Wood 320 carving, mat weaving and tapa beating are carried on to some extent, 285 and numbers of canoes are cut in the thick woods. Pigs and a few 287 fowl are raised, and dogs are kept as pets. 231

[1] [i.e.--anchorage on the west side of Ongea Levu. --Analyst]

FULANGA I.

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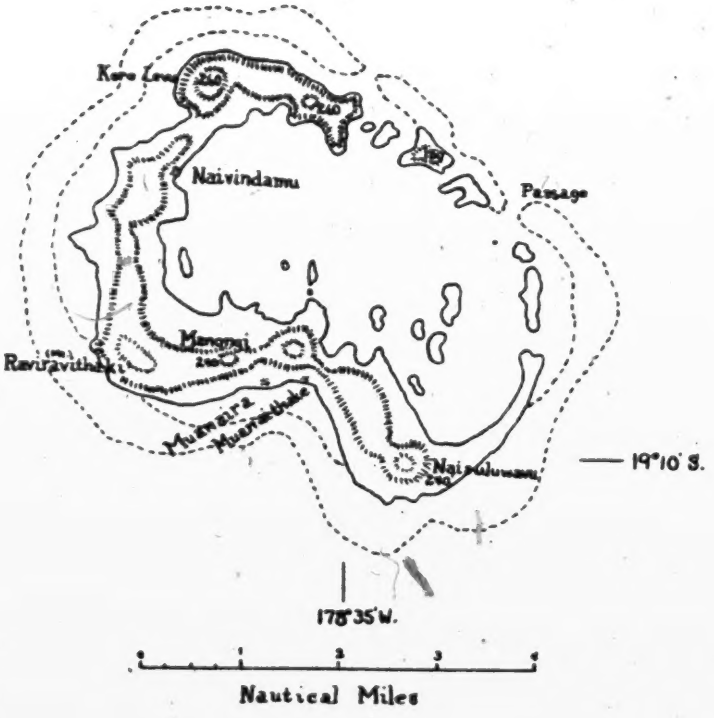

[p. 14]

[FULANGA I.]

312 Water is available only at the villages where rainwater is caught and stored in cement tanks.

13 The limestone hills are thickly covered with the usual lowland forest. The flats on both sides support extensive groves of coconut palms and cultivated areas. Mangrove thickets border the S.W. side of the lagoon.

The animals include birds, rats, lizards and probably snakes, although none of the latter were seen, except the banded water snake.
[231] The natives have domestic fowls, pigs and dogs. Mosquitoes present.

• 361 There are three small villages on Fulanga. Muanaithake and Muanaira are close together on the south ocean side. The former [16] has a population of about 200, living in 40 houses; the latter is much smaller, about a dozen houses and 40 inhabitants. Naividamu is situated on the N.W. arm, on the lagoon side. It has a population 487 of 64, living in a dozen huts. The three villages are connected by a good path.

181 The people appear prosperous and fairly industrious. The women 462 catch fish and dive for shell fish and oysters within the lagoon. The [226] men do the reef fishing and cultivate the fields. Canoe making and 241 some carving is done, and the women weave mats and beat out masi (tapa). 321 Some little copra is cut and shipped and the usual crops of sweet 285 potatoes, yams, manioc and bananas are grown, the latter for local [287] consumption only. 295 241

[p. 16]

9: Bryan N-5 (1924) 1924 OQ6 Lau OQ6

NAMUKA-I-LAU

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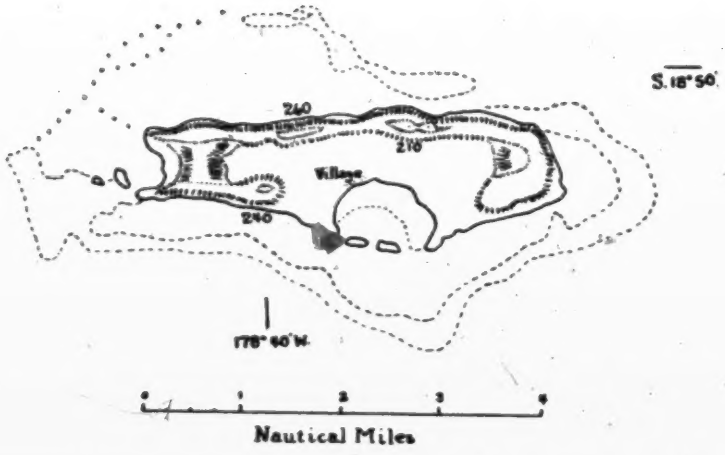

[p. 22]

13 5. NAMUKA-I-LAU lies about 8 miles N.W. of the Yangasa Cluster.
[361] (Village: S.18° 51', 178° 38' W.)It is rectangular in shape, a little over 4 miles long by 1 broad, and composed of coral limestone. A barrier reef, reduced to a chain of coral heads on the N.W., surrounds the island. On the north side of the island a rough ridge of upraised coral limestone rises abruptly from the sea to a height of 260 feet, and on the S.W. there is a short ridge up to 240 feet high.
[361] The village is located on a large bay facing the south, and another sandy bay is located at the west end. Each contains two small islets. The interior is a flat covered with extensive groves of coconut palms and cultivated areas. Along the ridges and at each end is lowland forest. There is a small marsh near the village.

The south bay is shallow and inaccessable. Good anchorage may
[487] be had within the reef off the north side. A trail leads over the ridge from a landing situated half way between the highest peak (260') and a more conspicuous double peak (210'), near a coconut grove.
[312] Rainwater is caught and stored at the village.

No land snakes, but water snakes are to be found occasionally on the rough coral beaches. Rats, hermit crabs and lizards are present. Mosquitoes and dragonflies [illegible] numerous.

361 The village is of moderate size, with over 50 houses and a pop-
161 ulation of about 216. The inhabitants are industrious and prosperous
181 cutting a large amount of copra and farming extensive cultivated areas.
295 There is a Chinese store. There is considerable beating of masi (tapa),
241 but very little carving.
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[p. 23]

MOTHE & KARONI

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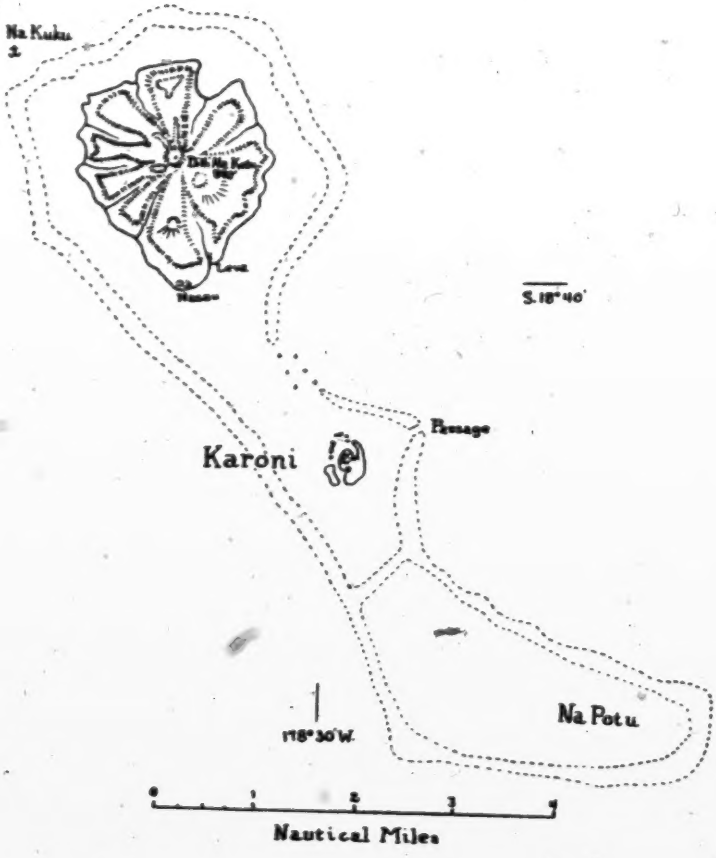

[p.24]

13 6. MOTHE is a moderate size volcanic island, 18 miles north of the Yangasa cluster and 12 miles N.E. of Namuka-i-Lau. The barrier reef which surrounds it stretches 7 miles to the south-west in a sweeping horn called Napotu, and also encloses a small limestone island, Karoni.

Mothe is 2 1/4 by 2 miles, with smooth, brown, grassy slopes rising to 590 feet in a tree capped peak, Dilli Na Kotu. These slopes are cut by several deep valleys, in which flow small streams of murky water. The beach and valley bottoms are lined with littoral and lowland trees and groves of coconut palms. Much of the beach is sandy. There is a wide, flat reef fringing the south and east sides.

Small cutters can enter the lagoon by a passage near the middle of the east side, east by north from Karoni. For larger vessels there is good anchorage (called Na Kuku) off the N.W. end of Mothe (outside the reef).

Besides the grass there is considerable scrub, ferns, and scattered Pandanus and Casuarina trees on the hills. The summit forest tuft consists of lowland trees only, which have worked up the valleys.

Animals, other than birds, include rats, lizards and banded water snakes.

● 361 There are two villages: Nasau, the larger, on the south point, and Leva or Na Koro a scant half mile up the east coast in a small bay. Both are surrounded by extensive groves of coconut palms. 226 241 281 285 231 There is much fishing, a little cultivation, and some masi beating and mat weaving. Pigs and fowl are raised.

13 Karoni is 2 1/4 miles south south-east from the south point of Mothe. It is a typical rough limestone island, supporting a thick growth of trees. The main island is sub-circular, but a number of small islets complete the circle. The east and south sides

ONEATA I.

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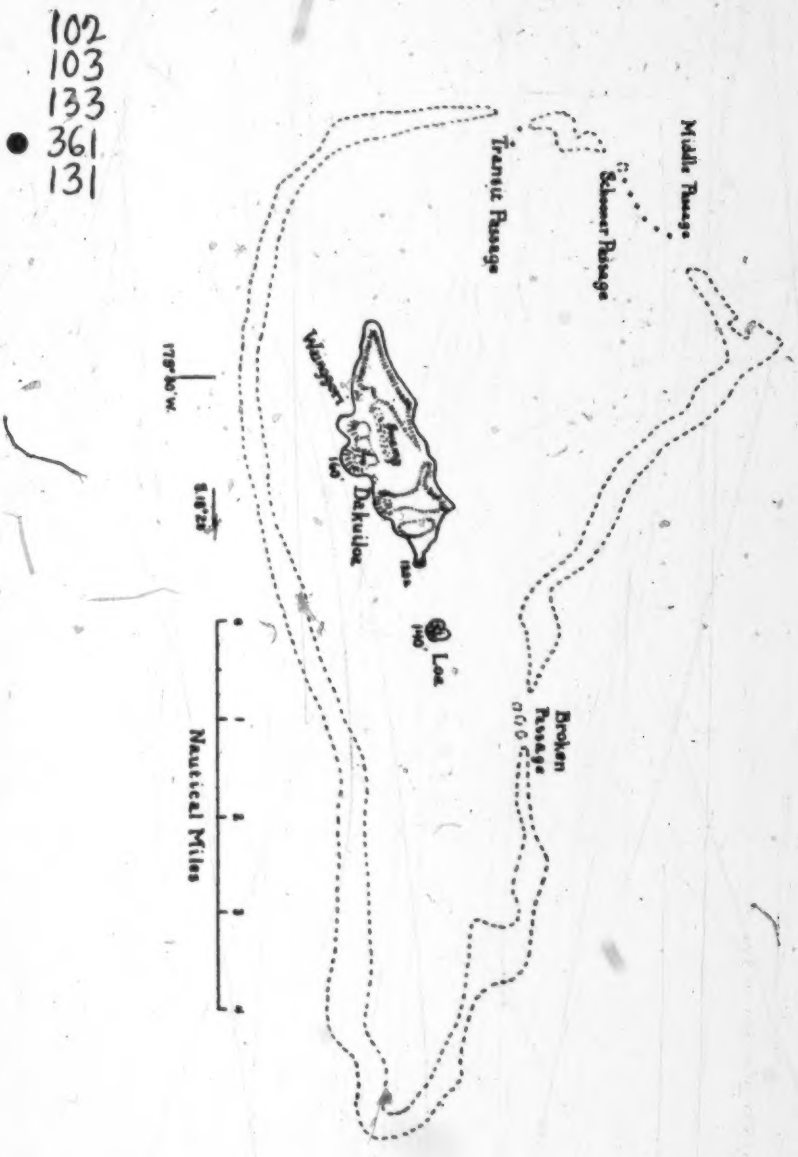

[p. 27]

13 7. ONEATA is a partly coral limestone, partly bedded sandstone island, lying about 12 miles north of Mothe. (S.18° 25', 178° 30' W.) It is 2 1/2 miles long and about 7/8 mile wide, pointed at both ends, and with three small wooded peaks up to 160 feet high on the south-east. Toward the east end there are two cross-ridges covered with forest. Off the east point a small conical islet, Loa, rises to a height of 140 feet. The west end has a sandstone hill, covered with grass, scrub, Pandanus and Casuarina. A volcanic ledge borders the east point. The central portion of the island is occupied by a narrow brackish swamp. South of it (between the two villages) are to low knobs or ridges of sandstone. On the north side of the low central depression is a large area of cocoanut palms and cultivated patches.

The island is surrounded by a long triangular barrier reef, extending six miles to the eastward and four to the north-west. Thru it there are four passages, three on the west and one on the north. The water is moderately deep within the lagoon, except off the S.W. point of the island. There is good anchorage off the main village, Wainggori, in the S.W. bay.

312 Water is abundant. It is piped to Waing-gori from a spring in the west end sandstone hill, which is said to run all year round. There is also a fresh water bathing pool near the swamp. Rainwater is caught at Dakuiloa, the other village.

13 In addition to the usual lowland and littoral trees, noted "yasi" sandlewood. Land birds numerous, but no water birds seen. No snakes reported. Aquatic insects numerous, and mosquitoes very troublesome.

361 [161] There are two villages, Wainggori (Waigori) and Dakuiloa, both situated on the south side. The former claimed a population of 250 although the 1921 census gives the figure 138. There were

[ONEATA I]

361 [161] 366 181 194 241 181 285 287 322

certainly more than the reported 25 houses. Dakuiloa is much smaller, with 21 houses and 85 people. There is a store at each village, Chinese at Wainggori, Japanese at Dakuiloa. The people seemed friendly, courteous, generous and sincerely religious. There was a noticeable Tongan element.

Quite a little agriculture is carried on by the natives, good corn (maize) being raised in addition to the usual sweet potatoes, yams, manioc, taro, bananas, and pumpkins. The people are prosperous and industrious. Some little mat weaving, masi (tapa) beating, and wood carving is done.

[p. 29]

9: Bryan N-5 (1924) 1924 OQ6 Lau OQ6

OLOKUA & KOMO

Detail of Olorua.

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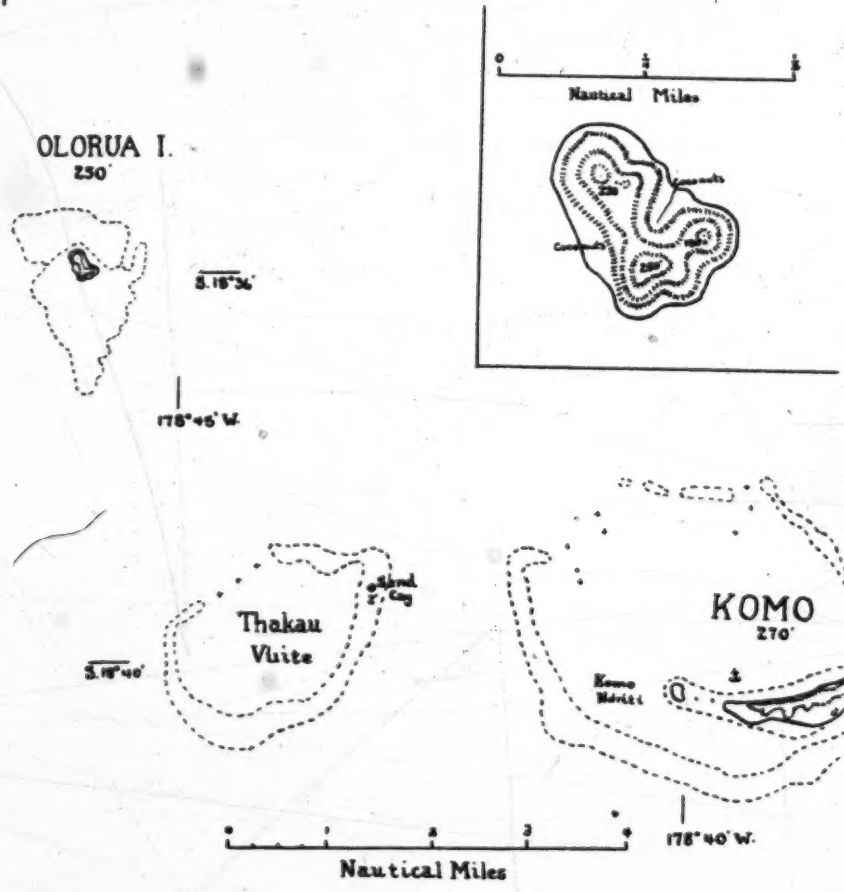

[p.30]

13 F. KOMO is a small island of volcanic origin lying 9 miles north of Namuka-i-Lau and 6 miles west by south of Mothe. (S.18° 41', 178° 39' W.). It is sub-crescent shaped, 1 1/2 miles long by 3/8 mile wide. On the north a ridge rises to an elevation of 270 feet from the sea, with moderately steep slopes; covered with grass, scrub, Pandanus and Casuarina trees. The summit is crowned by a small patch of cocoanut palms. The south side and west end are flat with cultivated areas and small groves of cocoanut palms.

Komo Ndriti, a small, rough, wooded islet of upraised coral limestone, lies a half mile off the west point.

A barrier reef encloses these islands on three sides, the northwest being open except for coral heads and a few small patches of reef. Here there are two good ship passages, 320 and 550 yards wide.

512 Although there are one or two small murky streamlets, rainwater is caught and stored in the village for drinking purposes.

13 Birds, lizards, rats and hermit crabs are the only wild land animals. Insects not very abundant and landshells scarce.

361 The village is located on the S.E. side, and consists of about 25
[161] houses. The natives, about 140 in number, are great fishermen, the
226 women using hand nets and basket traps, plated from beach vine, near
227 shore, while the men fish on the reef. They raise a few domesticated
462 pigs, fowl and dogs. Some little cultivation is done, especially of
231 sweet potatoes.
241

[p. 31]

KAMBARA, MARAMBO, WANGAVA
and TUVUNASITHI.

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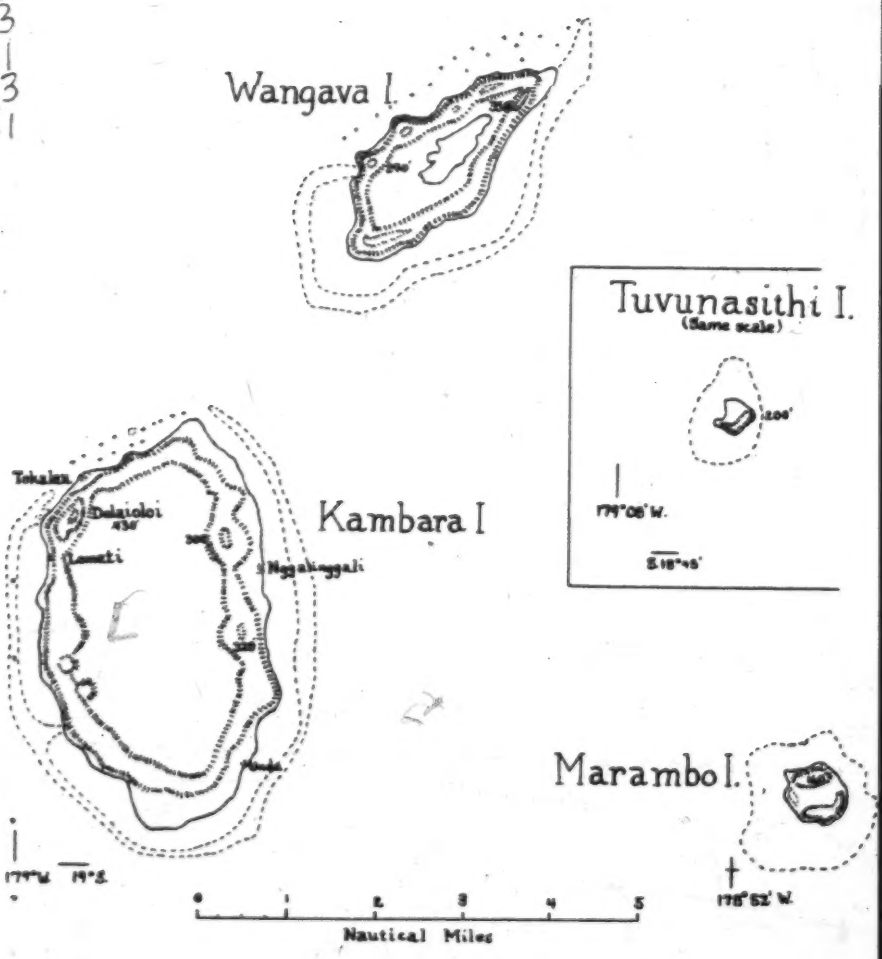

[p. 33]

13 10. **KAMBARA** is a moderately large, ovate island of upraised coral limestone with a volcanic intrusion at the N.W. end. The island is situated at the S.W. corner of the Lau group. Its south end rests upon the 19th parallel south and its west reef touches the 179th meridian west. It is 4 1/2 miles long and nearly 3 miles wide.

The greater part of the island is a wooded basin, surrounded by a continuous ridge of upraised limestone, up to 350 feet high, which drops abruptly toward the sea. The highest peak on the island, Delailoloi, is of volcanic material, 470 feet high, at the N.W. corner.

There is no harbor, but anchorage in 12 fathoms, sand and coral, may be had with the usual E or S.E. wind, off the N.W. corner, opposite the village of Tokalau. Landing is easy. At this point the barrier reef which surrounds the island is reduced to a line of coral heads.

[312] Water is not abundant on Kambara, but small supplies might be obtained at the villages, where rainwater is caught and stored in cement tanks.

[241] Part of the N.W. end of the central basin has been cleared of forest and planted to sweet potatoes, yams, manioc, pumpkins, bananas and other native foods. The remainder of the basin is covered by a thick, tropical, "lowland" forest. Along the N.W., N.E. and S.E. sides the beach is a sand flat underlain by coral sandstone and covered with groves of coconut palms and the usual beach growth. Portions of the N., W. and E. sides are precipitous undercut cliff.

The familiar land animals; crabs, lizards and rats present. No snakes seen, although the natives report them present.

361 [161] 109 natives; Lomati, about a mile down the W. coast, is a small, but [368] clean and prosperous looking village with an attractive church and [161] 46 natives; Undu, at the S.E. end, situated in an extensive coconut grove, with 89 inhabitants; and Nggalinggali (Qialiqali), the largest

[KAMBARA I.]

361 [161] of the four, on the east side, a little north of the middle, with 150 residents. A trail leads across the basin from the latter to the 487 241 garden areas, which seem to be cultivated jointly by the people of the three northern villages.

With the extensive timber at hand, the natives of Kambara have 396 322 long been noted for their canoe and boat building as well as for various kinds of carving.

13 This is the largest of the dominately limestone islands and would be well worth concentrated collecting.

[p. 35]

13 11. MARAMBO Island is a small, nearly circular limestone island located 7 miles east of the south end of Kambara. (Lat.18° 59', Long. 178° 50' W.) The surrounding reef is fringing in character, about 1 1/2 miles on a side. The island is about 1200 yards in diameter, with a rough flat topped hill on the north, "160" feet high (nearer 200 feet), the summit having a densely wooded depression. Between this hill and the west beach, where there is a low ridge, is a small flat, wooded and with coconut palms. South of the hill is a broad area of rough "badlands".

There is no anchorage, but landing is good thru a gap in the reef on the north side, leading to a broad sandy beach.

[312] No fresh water noted.

The surface is covered with the usual thick lowland forest, and the sand beach has an extensive growth of coconut palms and beach plants, especially at the N. and S.W. ends. The usual birds and small crabs and lizards present.

361 245 484 161 The island is uninhabited most of the time. There are four tumbled-down huts on the west side which are occasionally used by the Kambara natives when gathering copra. The 1921 census gives a population of 8. At the time of our visit (Aug.26,1924) one of the huts 484 was occupied by a man and two boys, stranded en route from Komo to 241 Fulanga. Most of the island is too rough for cultivation, but in addition to the two groves of coconut palms there is a small cultivated area toward the S.W. end.

13 12. WANGAVA island is of rough upraised coral limestone formation, 3 miles N.E. of Kambara. It is shuttle-shaped, 3 1/2 miles long and 1 mile wide. The island is surrounded by a rough marginal limestone ridge, rising steeply from the sea to 350 feet, enclosing a basin, much of which is occupied by a brackish lake. This lake is much more extensive than shown on charts of the island, being over a mile long and filling the entire N.E. two-thirds of the interior. The S.W. end is an undulating wooded plateau, with a few patches of coconut palms and widl lemon trees. There is also an extensive grove of coconut palms at the N.E. end of the lake, and small patches along its shore.

The rough, "badlands" of the surrounding ridge are covered with the usual lowland forest. The sand beaches have the usual littoral vegetation, including Erythrina indica, not seen on every island. The interior [139] contains plenty of good soil for cultivation, none of which is in use.

Landing is favorable on the N. side, where there are several sand beaches and the surrounding barrier reef is broken up into patches of coral heads. Anchorage may also be obtained here with an off shore 484 (E. to S.W.) wind. A trail leads into the interior from a sand beach 312 at the N.W. end. No fresh water seen.

● 361 The island is uninhabited, but there are some huts on the N.W. 161 beach, used by natives from Kambara, collecting copra. In the interior 245 trees have been felled in places. 484

[p. 37]

13 15. TUVUNASITHI is a very small island of upraised coral limestone, 13 miles N.W. of Wangava and 25 miles S.W. of Cloroma. It is sub-circular in outline, 1/2 mile in diameter, and rises in a steep, crescent shaped ridge on the east side to 200 feet elevation. It is surrounded by a fringing reef with no entrance. The S. and E. sides are rocky, the N. and W. sandy. The east ridge and west flat both consist of well forested coral "badlands".

There is no anchorage. Landing is possible on the N.W. side at half tide or higher; a small break in the reef giving access to a sandy basin from which the sand beach may be reached.

[312] There is no fresh water.

There is the usual littoral vegetation, the north and west beaches having more Pemphis than usual. There are small clumps of coconut palms.

295 161 361 The island is uninhabited, but the copra is collected and there is a small hut on the N. beach.

[p. 38]

LAKEMBA I.

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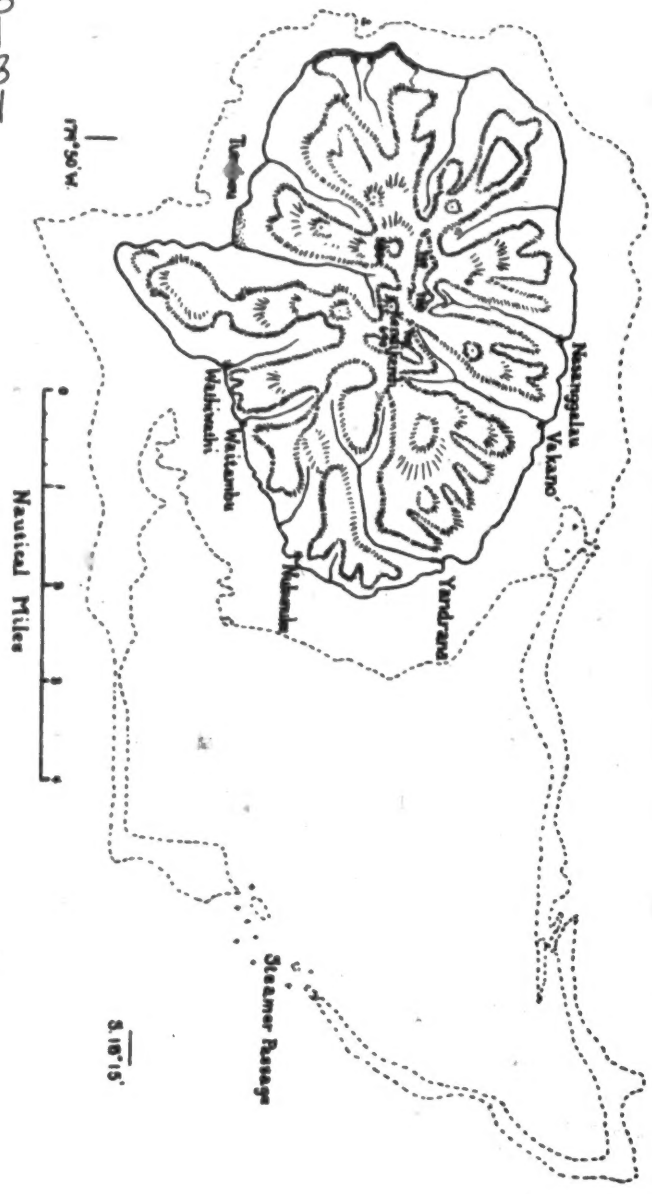

[p.41]

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[991] Lakemba has seven native villages, Tumbou being the largest one in Lau, with a population of 283. The others in order as one goes counter-clockwise along the well kept connecting road are:- Wathiwathi, on the east side of the south-jutting peninsula, 130 natives; Waitambu, three quarters of a mile to the east, 76 inhabitants; Nukunuku at the S.E. corner of the island, at the head of a small bay, 70 natives; Yandrana, along the banks of a fair size stream, at the N.E. corner, 187 inhabitants; Vakano, about 2 miles to the N.W., 70 natives; and Nasanggalau, with 150 inhabitants, about a mile to the westward at the mouth of the next stream. The west end of the island, opposite the Wankatalatha anchorage, is privately owned. There is a small store,
423
366
197 run by Chinese in nearly every village, and a large store run by the Lau Traders, Ltd., at Tumbou.

181
439 The inhabitants are thrifty, intelligent and industrious, drying and exporting a large quantity of copra. There are extensive cultivated
245
241 areas containing yams, sweet potatoes, etc., in the valleys. Considerable masi (tapa) is made.
287

Lakemba was the first island in Fiji to be Christianized by
797 British Missionaries (1853). The Provincial School, to which boys
871 from all over Lau are sent, is situated near Tumbou.

13 18. YAROUA is a small sand island, nine miles east of the south point of Tuvutha' I. and 20 miles W.N.W. of Reid Reef. It is surrounded by a fringing reef, varying from 200 to 400 yards wide. The island is flat, smoothly oval in outline, about 500 yards long by 300 to 400 yards wide, and 70 feet to the top of the coconut palms, which thickly cover its surface. This vegetated portion is surrounded by a broad steeply sloping sand beach.

Landing would be possible at high tide off the N.W. point, but as wind and tide were unfavorable we did not stop.

●[361] On the N.W. point are a few huts, which were occupied at the time of our visit. The coconut grove, which is similar to that on Wailangilala, should produce some little copra. There were no canoes on the beach.

The two reefs, Thakau Nokova and Thakau Lasemarawa lie respectively two miles to the east and three miles south. The latter contains rocks rising to a height of three feet.

[p.49]

13 19. KATAFANGA (or Katavanga) is a small island of limestone and volcanic material, lying 25 miles S.E. of Munia and 19 miles N.N.E. of Tuvatha'. (S. 17° 31', 178° 45' W.) It is 3/4 mile long and 800 yards wide on the north, tapering toward the south, and rises in two rounded hills to a height of 180 feet. The northern third of the island is densely wooded, rough upraised coral limestone; the southern two-thirds, rounded volcanic material, covered with grass and groves of cocoanut palms. The transition between the two is the most striking seen in Lau, as sharp as if cut by a knife. The southern portion is bordered by a broad beach of sand and slab sandstone.

The island is surrounded by a barrier reef thru which there is a passage on the north side which will admit small vessels drawing 10 feet or less. This passage is not the eastern one, generally indicated on charts, but the narrow one directly north of the N.E. point of the island. In it there are two or three coral heads, but with a favorable tide and commanding breeze small vessels may enter. A desirable 361 anchorage is to be had off the S.E. side of the island, opposite the owner's house, where landing is good.

423 245 The island is freehold property, owned by Mr. T.O.U.Stockwell, who lives on the island and is engaged in producing copra. There is no 464 native population other than his six workmen. Water may be obtained 312 together with small supplies of yams, sweet potatoes, papayas, pigs, etc. 262

Bird and insect life abundant on this luxurient little island. The 13 usual lizards and land crabs present in some numbers.

[p.51]

TUVUTHA' I.

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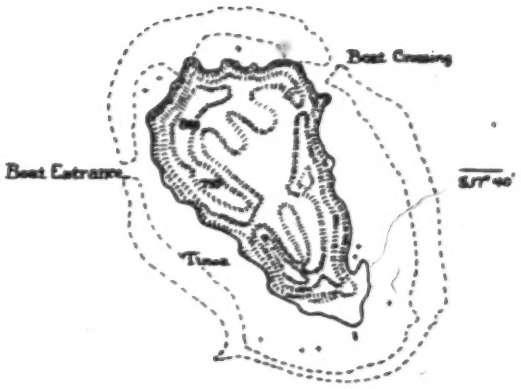

[p.53]

13 21. TUVUTHA' is a high, moderate size island of upraised coral with intrusions of volcanic material, 5 1/2 miles south of Vekai. (S.17° 40', 178° 48' W.) It is triangular in outline, 3 1/4 miles long, 1 3/4 miles wide at the north end, and tapering toward the S.S.E. The rough, heavily forested limestone cliffs, rising to a height of 750 to 800 feet on the west, enclose a central basin. The southern end of this is partly filled by a volcanic ridge, covered with grass, Pandanus, and low scrub. The northern portion of the basin is partly wooded, with groves of coconut palms and cleared cultivated areas. There are but [487] two trails leading into the interior. One scales the steep cliff behind Tinoa village and enters by a pass in the high ridge on the S.W. side. The other crosses a low place in the N.E. ridge, behind a sand beach and small volcanic knoll, opposite a boat crossing in the reef.

The island is surrounded by a barrier reef, 400 to 600 yards wide and about 1/2 mile off shore. Anchorage may be had outside the reef at the S.W. end, in the lee of a small horn. There are two boat entrances, one on the west, about 1 1/4 miles N.W. of the village, and the one at the N.E. end. Boats may also cross the reef at high tide near the anchorage at the S.W. corner.

361 The inhabitants, about 100 in number, live in one village, Tinoa, [161] on the S.W. side. Good water may be had from a spring here, but fruit, 312 vegetables and coconuts are only obtainable in moderate quantities. 262 The soil in the basin is fertile, but the difficulty of access prevents 134 extensive agriculture. 241

There are two small reefs, Tavunukui Wai and Tavunukui Vanua, to 13 the south of Tuvutha'. The latter contains a sand cay four feet high.

[p. 54]

9: Bryan N-5 (1924) 1924 OQ6 Lau OQ6

NAIAU I.

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[p.55]

13 22. NAIAU is a high limestone and volcanic island, 16 miles N.W.of Lakemba and 20 miles S.W.of Tuvutha'. (S.17° 58', 179° 04' W.) The island is 3 1/2 miles long by 2 miles wide, and is surrounded by a fringing reef. The high marginal ridge of upraised coral limestone, which rises percipitously on the north to 580 feet elevation, surrounds a ~~dish~~ dry central volcanic basin, carpeted with grass, scrub and Pandanus. The ridges are well forested.

There is no anchorage for vessels, but boats can cross the reef opposite the village of Salia on the east side, and also on the N.W. side, at high water.

312 Water is not abundant, but may be had at the villages, together with limited supplies of staple groceries and vegetables.

361 [366] 177 [161] There are three villages on the island. Salia on the east side has a native population of 140 and two chinese stores. Narothivo is located about a mile and a quarter to the N.N.W. and has 117 people. Liku, with 59 natives is on the south-east side. There is no landing at Liku, and all supplies and copra has to be carried 489 13 by trail over the ridges and across the central basin. Gaps in the limestone ridges on each side, with gradual slopes of volcanic material leading up to them, make this trail more accessable than 181 245 that on Tuvutha'. The people appear to be prosperous and produce quite a little copra from the extensive coconut groves.

192 361 712 On the high ridge S.W. of Salia there is the site of an ancient fortified village, perched at the top of a cliff.

[p.56]

9: Bryan N-5 (1924) 1924 QQ6 Lau QQ6

VANUA VATU.

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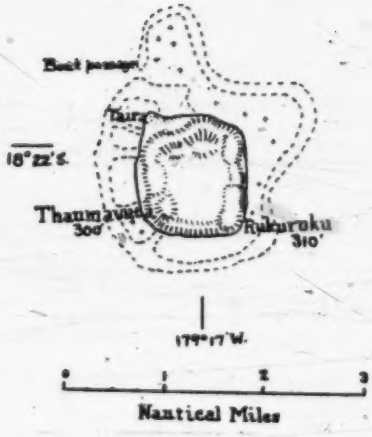

[p.57]

13 25. VANUA VATU is a small island of limestone and volcanic formation, 25 miles S.S.W. of Naiau and 22 miles N.N.W. of Tavunasithi. Like Naiau, it consists of a dry, grassy basin of volcanic material surrounded by a ring of wooded upraised coral limestone hills rising to 300 feet elevation on the S.E. and S.W. The elevation of the central basin is from 200 to 250 feet. The island is slightly over a mile square.

It is surrounded by a barrier reef which joins the shore in several places on the west side. On the N. and N.E. this reef lies from 3/4 to 1 mile off shore, but is close in for the rest of its length. With an off shore wind, small craft can anchor over a 9 fathom shelf close to the reef in the N.W. cove. From here a boat passage leads into a sandy basin, but a second reef, between this and the village can be crossed only at high water.

361 There is a single village, Taira, one of the neatest and cleanest seen in Fiji, at the N.W. corner. Contrary to the statement of lack of 181 food made in the Pilot book (H.O.166,p.375), we found the people quite 262 prosperous and both food and water fairly abundant. The central basin 312 is dry and rocky, supporting only grass, scrub and Pandanus, but small 13 pockets of fertle soil among the limestone hills have been cleared and 134 crops of sweet potatoes and yams are raised. [241]

[p.58]

THITHIA I.

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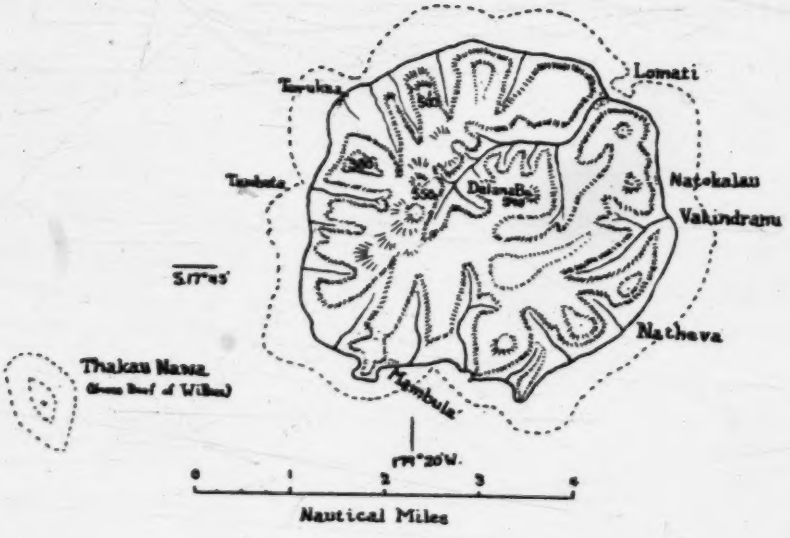

[p. 59]

13 84. THITHIA (pronounced thē'-thē'-ä) is a moderately large, nearly circular island of volcanic and limestone formation, 17 miles N.W. of Naisu and about the same distance S.S.W. of Mango. The island is about 4 miles in diameter, with the interior undulating grassland, rising in several peaks to a height of over 500 feet. Delana Bo, east of the center of the island, is said to be the highest point, but two peaks on the west marginal ridge are as high or higher. As usual, the ridges of upraised coral limestone are marginal, but here they are somewhat reduced in extent, there being also volcanic ridges [312] on the south, west and north sides. A moderately large stream, flowing to the N.E., drains the central portion, and there are numerous smaller streams. Good water is plentiful.

The island is surrounded by a fringing reef, 300 to 800 yards wide. There is a good anchorage off the village of Tarukua, at the N.W. point, with the prevailing S.E. to E. winds. Here landing is good at any time of the tide. There is also a temporary anchorage off Tambuta Plantation, a mile to the south. There is a small break in the reef opposite 60 yards wide the village of Lomati, but as there is very little protection from the prevailing wind, vessels seldom anchor here.

Snakes are ~~said~~ said to be abundant. There are numerous lizards and land crabs. Besides the usual land birds, introduced mynahs and "magpies" are abundant.

There are several caves in the N.E. cliffs, some containing bats, [135] and one said to have a deposit of low grade phosphate.

● 361 [161] [622] [161] [366] [179] [143] [159] Thithia is one of the most advanced and prosperous islands of Lau. There are five villages with a combined population of over 400. The residence of the Bula[1] is at Tarukua, at the N.W. end, which has 75 natives and a small Chinese store. The district hospital, with a native practitioner in charge, is located here. Mambula', at the S.W.

[p.60]

1 [Buli or chief--analyst]

[THITHIA I.]

361 [161] [366] [177] is the largest village, with 123 ~~residents~~ residents and a Chinese store. Matheva is a small village on the S.E., with 40 natives, and also has a little store. Natokalau, on the east side has 65 residents.

361 361 [205] [245] [466] Lomati, on the N.E., at the mouth of the large stream, is a propperous village with 113 residents and a large Chinese store. Mr. C.B.Crabbe, cocomut planter and postmaster, who lives here, also keeps a store, mainly for the ~~use~~ convenience of his workmen.

423 245 Two sections of the island, Tambuta on the west side and Vakindranu on the east, are privately owned by the Borron Estate, under the management of Mr. E.J.Brodnam, who is interested in tropical agriculture and natural history. Here extensive groves of cocomuts have been set out and much copra is produced.

[p.61]

MANGO I.

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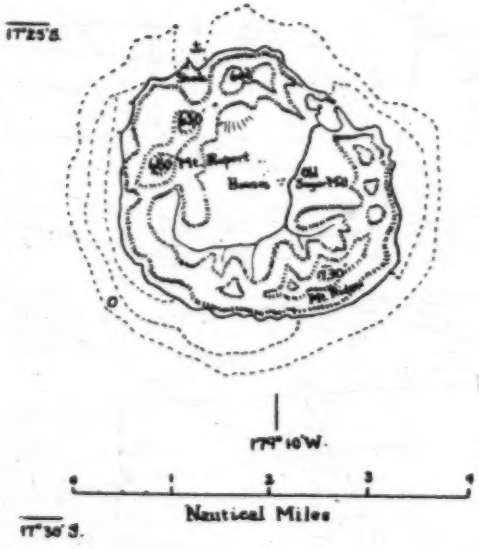

[p. 62]

13 25. MANGO is a moderately large limestone and volcanic island, 8 miles south of Kanathea, 20 miles W.N.W. of Tuvutha', and 17 miles N.N.E. of Thithia. (S.17° 27', 179° 09' W.). It is surrounded by a fringing reef, about 1/2 mile wide. On the north there is a wide gap in the reef, forming an excellent anchorage with the prevailing S. to E. winds. The island is nearly circular, 3 miles in diamtere, and reaches an elevation (Mt.Rider) on the south of 730 feet according to the owner (the Pilot Book, H.O.166, p.372, gives 670 feet). Two other high volcanic hills overlook the west coast, and there is one nearly as high in the north ridge.

This marginal ring of hills, partly volcanic and partly of upraised coral limestone, encloses a broad central basin which is at present 245 thickly planted to cocomnt palms. It was formally used for the [248] cultivation of sugar cane, and prior to that for raising cotton. The [249] old sugar mill still stands near the owners houses, toward the center ● 361 of the basin. From it a small tram line runs to the N.E.bay.
491

The island is owned by Mr. James Borron, and is managed by his son. There is no native population other than the workmen employed on the 423 plantation, which are mostly Indians. It is one of the most productive 464 and luxurient islands in Lau, and would be well worth an extended 162 biological survey. There is a dense forest among the limestone hills 13 on the N.E., hanging with tropical vines, and with lianas up to 15 inches in diameter. The volcanic hills are covered with the usual grass and scrub, and here and there are groves of Casuarina trees. A small lake, in the N.W.gap, supports a flock of wild ducks, and other bird life is abundant.

312 Water is abundant. A large stream drains the central basin, flowing N.E. to the nearly enclosed bay. There are also several small lakes and pools of fresh water.

245 At present about 500 tons of copra are produced annually. A herd

KANATHEA I.

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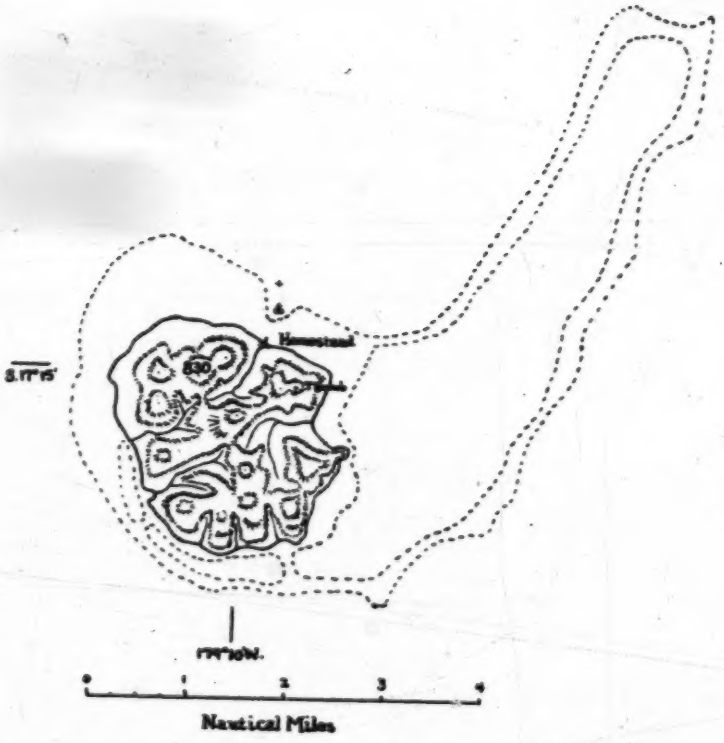

[p.65]

13 27. VANUA MBALAVU I. is situated at the western side of the lagoon containing the Exploring Isles. (S.17° 10' to S.17° 20', and 178° 55' to 179° 04' W.) It is 14 miles long and up to 2 1/2 miles wide, with several peaks along its backbone. The N.W.portion, including Ngillangilla I. (510'), which is separated from the main island by a narrow channel, is composed of upraised coral limestone. This continues to be the dominant material south and eastward as far as the two deep bays on the N.E.. On the east side of these the forested limestone cliffs are abruptly replaced by rounded grassy hills. These continue until close to the south end ~~&th~~ which is a narrow limestone ridge. The small islets to the N.W. are limestone. Yanu Yanu, on the S.E. is of volcanic material. The highest peak, Koro Mbasabga (930) and the summits of one or two other peaks of volcanic material are covered with an open growth of forest, similar to that on the high volcanic islands of Matuku, Moala, and Totoya.

●361 [423] All of the villages, about 14 in number, are located in the volcanic portion of the island. Nambavatu, in the N.W., is a private estate. Several of the villages were not visited during our short stay, but their populations are tabulated under the Census of Lau.

[648] [349] [368] [177] [563] Lomaloma, with the residence of the District Commissioner, the courthouse, a large native church and ~~&th~~ a few European homes, is situated toward the S.E. end of the island. The northern half of the village (Lomaloma) is Fijian; the southern half (called Sawana) is Tongan, with a separate Buli (chief) and its own city government. The two parts have a combined population of 272. The harbor is well [13] protected, on the east by the islet of Yanu Yanu, and on the N. and S. by outjutting reefs, leaving a small natural basin. In former times [366] Lomaloma was a a large and commercially important place, with several hotels and stores. To it came the old sailing vessels from all parts [439] of the world after copra and native produce from all Lau. But with

[VANUA MBALAVU I.]

[36] [505] the establishment of a good stable government in the western part of Fiji, and cutter service between the various islands and Levuka and Suva, most of its prosperity has vanished.

Another large village is Mualevu, at the east foot of Koro Mbasanga. [366] [312] [161] [487] This village has a good store and an abundant water supply, piped down from the adjacent valley, which contains the only real stream seen on the island. The population is given as 196. All the villages are connected by good trails.

241 The island is not as extensively cultivated as it might be. There are small areas of native food stuffs planted in the valleys and on the lower slopes behind the various villages. And the flats are occupied 13 by small groves of coconut palms. But most of the limestone region remains in native forest, and much of the grassy volcanic ridge is left in that state.

[312] [366] Water is not very abundant, but may be obtained at the villages, especially Mualevu. Supplies may be secured there and at Lomaloma.

Anchorage is good in many of the bays, besides at Lomaloma, and landing is possible anywhere in the volcanic region and in many of the limestone bays. The limestone country is extremely rough and uninviting, but pockets may be made to support groves of coconuts, as at Nambavatu.

The "Bay of Islands", south-east of Ngillangilla, contains one long low island and several small islets. Here anchorage is good. Andavathi I. (250') and Yanuthaloa I. (160') lie to the S.S.E. of this bay.

[312] There is a hot spring near the gap between the volcanic and limestone formations at the south end.

[p. 69]

13 28. AVEA is a small island composed of elevated coral limestone and volcanic material, lying a little over a mile off the N.E. side of Vanua Mbalavu. It is 1 3/4 miles long by 1/2 to 5/8 mile wide, pointed at both ends and rising to a height of 600 feet. The center is a small, narrow, wooded plateau, from which rise the two peaks, Salia (600'), and Sangawelangi (about 500'). The slopes rise abruptly from a narrow beach covered with coconut palms. The island is fringed with a coral reef on the east side and is connected to the north reef by a coral strip, over which small boats can pass at any time of tide. On the S.E. side is a grassy volcanic hill, the slopes of which are under cultivation.

361 161 312 487 The village, Avea, is located on the S.W. point and has a population of about 60 natives. There is a small freshwater pool at the foot of a cliff on the south end. A good trail leads from here to the village.

172 The remains of an ancient village occupies part of the flat-topped plateau.

13 29. Malata is a small wooded island, of partly limestone and partly volcanic material. It is a continuation S.S.E. of the limestone ridge at the south end of Vanua Mbalavu, with which it is connected by a broad reef which dries at 3/4 ebb tide, with a gap of only a few hundred feet. The island is 1 1/2 miles long by 1/2 mile wide, and rises to a height in the center of 420 feet.

[361 291 345] The village is situated on the N.E. side, where there is a grassy and partly cultivated volcanic hill, with a grove of coconut palms. Other portions of the island are also of volcanic formation.

30. Susui is a somewhat larger island of limestone and volcanic formation, lying to the eastward of the south-east point of Malata, with which it is connected by a reef which dries at 1/2 tide. It is 2 1/3 miles long by 3/4 mile wide. The western half is of wooded, elevated coral limestone,

[SUSUI I.]

13 the highest portion of which is a central transverse ridge, 430 feet high. The eastern half is a long, grassy flat of volcanic material, thickly covered with groves of coconut palms, which run up the eastern slope of the central hill. On the flat are two small hills covered with Casuarina trees. The village of Susui is situated at the N.W. [361] corner of this flat, at the head of a small bay. It has a population [161] of 67. The island is said to be used as a grazing ground for cattle. [233] Considerable copra is also produced. [245]

To the eastward are two small islands. The larger one, 190 feet high, has a small grove of coconut palms. The smaller, 80 feet high, rises more abruptly with rocky slopes adorned with Casuarina trees.

[p.71]

MUNIA & THIKOMBIA - I - LAU

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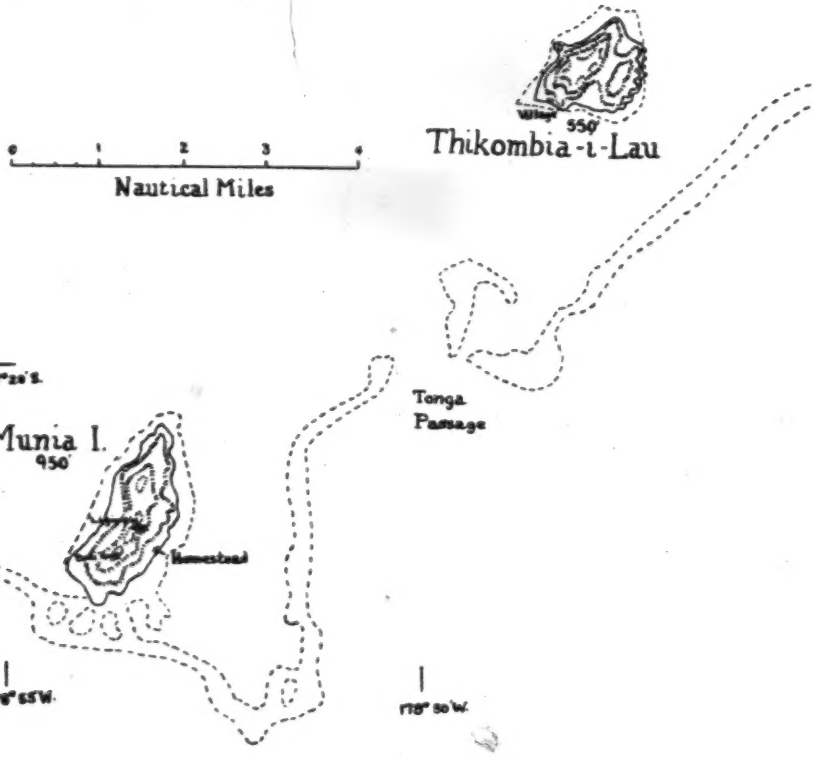

[p. 74]

13 El. MUNIA is a small volcanic island, 2 1/4 miles long by 1500 yards wide, lying 3 1/2 miles E.by S. of Susui and 15 miles E.by N. of Mango. A high ridge traverses the island, reaching a height of 950 feet near the center. The island is surrounded by a fringing reef, which connects it with the south side of the barrier reef which surrounds the Exploring group. The island is entirely made up of volcanic material.

473 Munia is privately owned, by Mr. H.H. Steinmets, an Englishman, who
162 produces copra. His homestead is located on the S.E.side at a place
295 where there is a small bight in the reef. Here a pier has been built
361 out nearly to deep water. Anchorage here is fair, except when the
504 strong
13 wind is from the S.E.to N.E. A better anchorage may be found in the lee of the island. Good paths traverse the island and its slopes are
487 thickly planted with coconut palms. Water is fairly abundant, there
312 being several wells.

Mr. Steinmets has kept careful meteorological records for the
127 past 29 years (1924). A summary of his rainfall data is given in the introduction.

464 There is no native population on the island other than the workmen.
161 er
It formally possessed native inhabitants, however, and bones and ethno-
[172] logical objects have been dug up about the homestead.

[p.75]

13 32. THIKOMBIA - I - LAU is a small limestone and volcanic island located on the east side of the lagoon, 5 1/2 miles N.E. of Munia. It is trregularly rectangular in outline, 1 1/4 by 1 1/8 miles, and rises to a height of 550 feet. The western part consists of a volcanic plateau surrounded by a ring of coral limestone hills, thus forming a raised basin, similar to Vanua Vatu. The eastern part is a steep hill with spurs of volcanic conglomerate, separated from the western mass by a low divide connecting the heads of two deep valleys. The south and east sides are furrowed by small valleys or pockets running back from the sea. Here the beach is alternately volcanic rock, sand and sandstone.

361 [161] 291 The village of Thikombia, on the S.W. end, consists of a dozen houses, with a population of 50. There are extensive cultivated areas in the volcanic basin, and small groves of coconut palms along the beach and in the N.E. and S.E. valleys. Water is not abundant, rainwater being waught 312 and stored in a cement tank at the village.

Vessels may anchor in the lee of the island, and landing is good 13 487 764 172 both at the village and on the north sand beaches. Trails lead up onto the plateau from both the north and south sides. A burial cave containing numerous skeletons was explored on this plateau.

[p. 76]

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[161] 34. The KIMBOMBO IS. are a group of 3 small, uninhabited islets, 6 miles north of the N.W. end of Vanua Mbalavu and 13 miles eastward of Naitaumba. They are surrounded by a barrier reef, 4 1/2 miles E.& W. by 3 miles N.& S. An entrance on the N.W. admits vessels into the lagoon, where good anchorage may be found.

The largest islet, the south-eastern one, is sub-crescent-shaped, about 300 by 400 yards. It is composed of exceedingly rough coral limestone and surrounded by an undercut shelf. The islet slopes up gradually from the N.& W. to a height of 190 feet, to fall sheer to the water on the east. The slopes are densely covered with the usual trees, shrubs and herbs found on rough limestone islands. There is no fresh water [312] and insect life is scarce. A number of "flying foxes" (fruit bats) and the usual land crabs were seen. There are two small rocks off the N.W. side.

The middle islet, although only 200 or 300 yards to the N.W., is composed of conglomerate and bedded tuff of volcanic origin. The bedded strata dip to the E. and N.E. at an angle of about 30°. The islet is 100 by 60 yards and 120 feet high. It slopes up gradually from the S.E. with a cliff on the N. and N.W. A sand beach borders the W. and S.E. ●[361] sides, with a hut and small grove of coconut palms. The rounded summit is covered with small trees, and the slopes with casuarinas.

The small islet, on the W., is a steep pinnicle of tuff and conglomerate, about 100 feet high. completely surrounded by a sand beach, with coconut palms on the south and a few small trees on the summit. A line of reef runs out to a patch of flat rocks on the N.E., and a similar reef connects the islet with two flat rocks to the south.

114 The observations of Agassiz (Bull.Museum Comparative Zoology, XXXIII, p.88, 1899), that the highest island is volcanic and the other two of elevated limestone, is incorrect.

[p.79]

9: Bryan N-5 (1924) 1924 OQ6 Lau OQ6

WAILANGILALA I.

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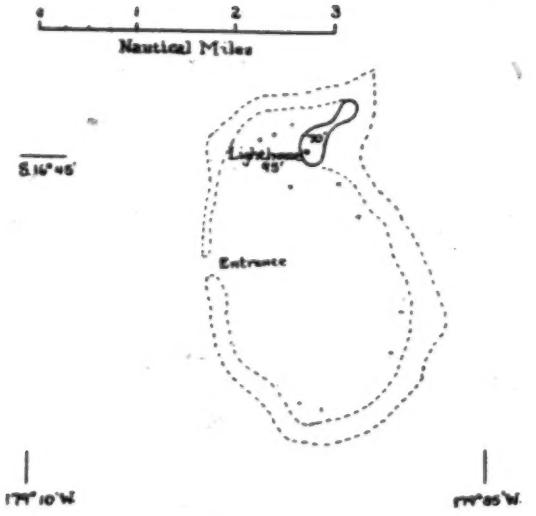

[p. 80]

13 35. WAILANGILALA is a flat sand island underlain by coral limestone, a mile long and 600 yards wide at its widest ~~part~~ part. It is the most northern of the Lau Group, lying 18 miles N.N.W. from Kimbombo Islets. (S.16° 45', 179° 06' W.). The island is surrounded by a barrier reef, 2 1/2 miles wide (E.& W.) by 3 3/4 miles N.& S. Thru this there is an entrance on the west 240 yards wide which admits vessels into the lagoon, where good anchorage may be found.

The island is thickly covered with littoral plants and cocoanut palms, reaching a total height of 70 feet above sea level. Toward the north there is a bare narrow isthmus, with a wooded section beyond, giving the appearance of two islands.

349 361 241 On the S.W. side is a 95 foot circular, white iron tower, with a flashing white light, visible 15 miles. The lighthouse keeper and his assistant have neat substantial homes near by. They cultivate small garden plots and dry copra from the extensive cocoanut grove. Some [312] vegetables and papayas may be obtained. Rain Water is stored in a tank.

114 An account of a boring made on this island in 1897 is given by Alexander Agassiz in the Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Vol.XXXIII, pp.45 to 48, 1899. The island must have changed considerably in shape since that time, as it does not at present agree with maps given on pages 45 and 46. Even the position of the lighthouse is different.

[p.81]

NAITAUMBA I.

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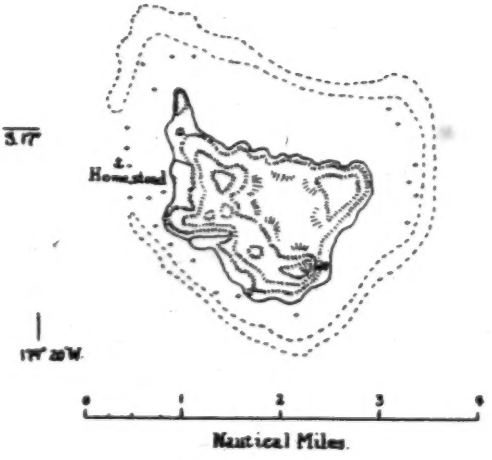

[p.82]

13 86. NAITAUMBA is a trapezium-shape volcanic and limestone island, lying 15 miles N.W. of Vanua Mbalavu and 18 miles S.W.of Wailangilala. It is surrounded by a barrier reef which lies from 1/4 to 3/4 mile off shore. On the west the reef is reduced to a line of coral heads and patches. Here small boats may enter. Vessels may anchor, with an off shore wind, on a narrow shelf off this west side.

The island is 2 miles E.& N. by 1 1/2 miles E.& S. A central basin is surrounded by limestone and volcanic hills, the highest, on the S.E., reaching an elevation of 610 feet in a flat-topped volcanic peak rising with steep slopes. The limestone portions, especially on the N.E. and N.W. are densely wooded; the volcanic hills are covered with the usual grass, scrub and pandanus; and the basin contains an extensive grove of coconut palms.

423 The island is privately owned by Mr.G.M.Henning, who resides at a
361 homestead on the west side. Considerable copra is produced. Fresh
245 water is abundant, and small quantities of produce, turkeys, etc.,
312 might be obtainable at the homestead. Good trails traverse the island.
489 There is no native population other than the plantation workmen.
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The MALIMA Islets, two small uninhabited islets lying 6 miles S.E.
13 of Naitaumba, were not visited. They are surrounded by a continuous circular barrier reef, about 2 miles in diameter, with a small boat passage on the north side. The larger islet reaches a height of 130 feet in a conspicuous lump on its S.W. end. The lagoon contains numerous rocks and coral heads.

[p.83]

NUKUTOLU ISLETS, YATHATA AND KAIMBU.

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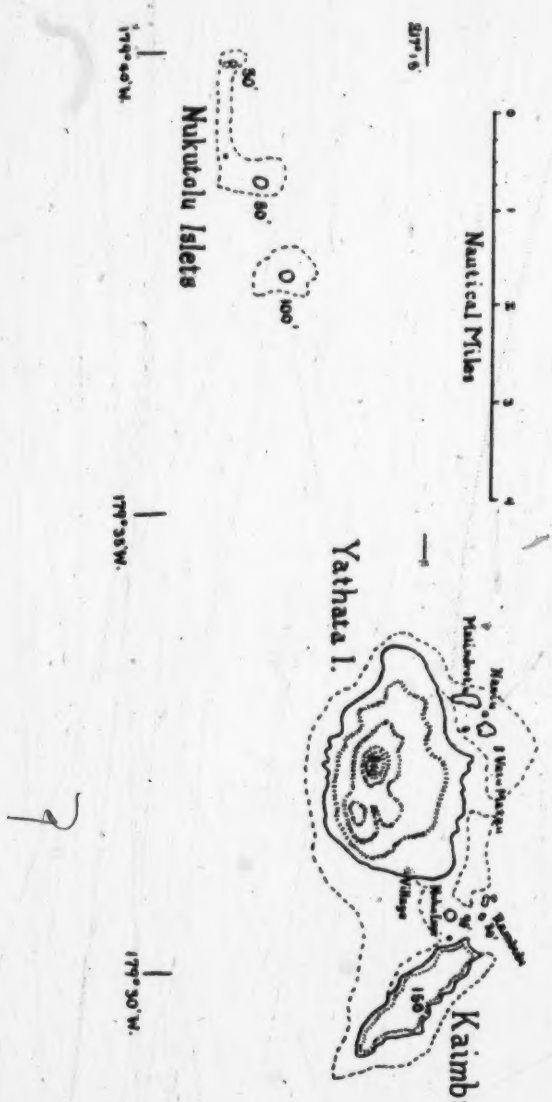

[p. 84]

13 37. YATHATA (or Cap island, so called because its profile resembles a
[103] cap with button) is a limestone and volcanic island, lying 18 miles S.W. of Naitaumba and 19 miles west of Kanathea. (S.17° 16', 179° 32' W.) It is surrounded by a fringing reef which also encloses the low limestone island of Kaimbu and several smaller islets and rocks. There is a boat passage on the N. side with good landing on a sand beach toward the N.E. end. There is no anchorage.

The island is 3 1/2 miles E.& W. by 1 1/2 miles wide. Toward the center there is a steep, flat-topped, wooded limestone peak, 840 feet high and on the S.E. a rounded, grassy volcanic hill. The coast on the east and N.W. is sandy with groves of coconut palms, and there are
[241] cultivated areas on the S.W. side of the central peak.

36 The village, with 25-30 native houses and a frame church, is located
368 on the east side. S.W. of the village is a small fresh water pool. The
312 island is traversed by trails. The ruins of an ancient fortified village
487 occupies the summit of the central peak, Na Koro Levu (840'). The vol-
172 canic hill, called Dilla Thata, is about 500 feet high.
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38. KAIMBU was not visited. It is about 1 1/2 miles long (NW-S.E.), by
13 1/2 mile wide. It is composed of elevated coral limestone, with a flat surface ~~averaging~~ 150 feet high. Portions are wooded, and others partly
[241] cultivated. The small village is on the N.W. side.
[361] The small sand islet of Nukulave, between Yathata and Kaimbu is densely covered with coconut palms. The 90 feet elevation is to the top of the vegetation. The other small islets, 20 to 30 feet high, are mostly coral limestone and of no great consequence.

[p.85]

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[103] 40. VATU VARA' I. (or Hat island, because of its resemblence, in profile from the E. and W., to a slouch hat) lies 9 miles south of Yathata. (S.17° 26', 179° 32' W.) It is surrounded by a fringing reef with a small shallow lagoon on the west. This island is the highest in Lau, the bold central peak rising to a height of 1630 feet. The slopes of this peak rise percipitously to a flat, crater-like summit, where the ruins of a fortified village are located.

[172]
[712]

The island is sub-circular, about 1 1/4 miles in diameter, with a square point on the S.E. It is composed of upraised coral limestone, densely wooded, and with small groves of coconut palms in pockets around the foot of the talis slopes, and on the beaches. It is privately owned by the estate of the late Captain Wilson. The neat, substantial homestead is located on the west side. Copra is produced.

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502 Landing may be made without difficulty on a sand beach on the N. side, thru a small break in the reef, marked by a beacon.

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241 There are no inhabitants except the caretaker and a few workmen. Water is not abundant, and but little cultivation is done.

[p.88]

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28. The village on Vanua Vatu is one of the neatest in Lau.

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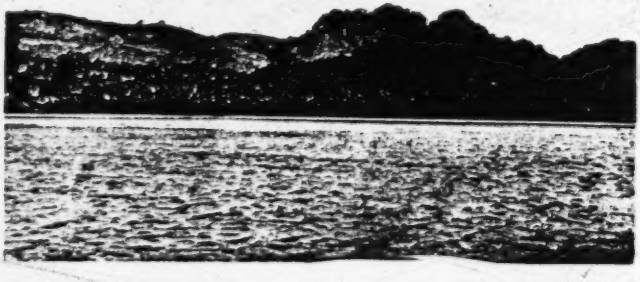

29. Volcanic and coral limestone hills near Tarukua village, Thithia.

[p. 102]

10:St. Johnston G-5 (no date)1918
OQ6 Lau OQ6

a very wet and disconsolate castaway that eventually stepped on the sandy beach of Doi, and turning round sat down to gaze at the ship and meditate on the prospects of getting home again. Here was I, on a tiny islet, inhabited by a handful of natives, at the extreme south of the Fiji group —so far south, indeed, as to be well on the way towards New Zealand, and not on the Fiji chart at all—and if the ship were disabled or unable to be floated off again I might be settled here for a month before a relief ship could reach me. There is, of course, no "wireless" on such remote islands as this, and the Ono Islands are seldom touched at beyond my own annual visit of inspection.

We eventually floated the vessel off, after a trying time of several days on the reef; and what with that and a severe gale that subsequently arose I was detained at Ono for some eleven days, during which I spoke no English, and found for literature only a copy of the *Auckland Weekly News*, just fifteen months old, to amuse myself with. It was during that time, when we sat out in the warm, moonlit nights, watching the distant reef, and wondering always whether *that* night's tide would be sufficient to float her free, that I heard some of the old-time tales of the ancient gods of Lau.

There is a fair-sized village at Doi, and, luckily, the Chief of the Island was a most intelligent

10:St. Johnston G-5 (no date) 1918
OQ6 Lau OQ6

man, though of a somewhat dreamy nature, and although he pretended to laugh at these tales of olden days, I could see that he more than half believed them. But being intelligent he was, at all events, able to tell a connected story, and also help me elicit one from others; and some of the tales I heard then I now set down.

"Did you hear that, sir?" he said, suddenly, one night as we were seated on the beach with some of the local islanders round a little wood fire, kept up more for the sake of re-lighting the oft-renewed *sulukas*, or native cheroots, than for actual warmth.

"That" was the distant beating of a *lali*, the big wooden drum found in all Lauan villages. The air was still, yet the sound was but faint that came to us from over the great lagoon that stretches between Doi and Ono Islands. I had several times heard the Ono *lali* before; and on calm days such as this it had seemed quite close, and certainly different from this faint sound, which now had ceased altogether. Some of the men looked at each other.

"Perhaps it is *Sagasagawalé*, for I know of no meeting to be summoned at Ono to-night, and why else should the drum be sounded?" said one of them, a little awkwardly.

"Don't be a fool," said the Chief, with a curt laugh. "These are enlightened times, and

[text continues on p. 70]